DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: C. Chukwuogor, M. Hirschorn
Members Absent: A. McPherson
Staff Present: C. van Zelm
Others Present: S. Sweikert (UConn Graduate Intern)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
Marty Hirschorn called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mr. Hirschorn made a motion to approve the October 10, 2019 minutes. Chiaku Chukwuogor seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS
   A. Update on Mansfield Opportunity Zone
   Ms. Chukwuogor referenced the CT DECD conference about opportunity zones that she attended that included state officials and other staff from various Connecticut cities and towns. The meeting included how towns and cities have approached redevelopment sites and how they went about revitalizing certain areas. She suggested that the Mansfield staff team talk to other Connecticut towns about their tables at the conference in terms of photos and vertical displays.

   Mr. Hirschorn spoke about the need to keep people in Connecticut and asked about information regarding the achievements of towns and cities in 2019.

   Cynthia van Zelm updated Mr. Hirschorn and Ms. Chukwuogor about the progress CERC is making on their work with the Town on promoting Mansfield’s opportunity zone. The last major piece to finish is a marketing plan for the promotion of the opportunity zone. A market analysis and list of potential incentives have been completed.

   Mr. Hirschorn asked whether anyone had taken advantage of the tax incentives in Connecticut opportunity zones in 2019, when the maximum benefit is available. Mr. Hirschorn also asked for a breakdown of how the benefit decreases each year. Ms. van
Zelm said she would follow-up with CERC and invite them to a future subcommittee or full EDC meeting.

B. Review of Town and State of Connecticut Opportunity Zone websites
Ms. van Zelm then showed the Town of Mansfield website that breaks down the opportunity zones by main areas of focus. In addition, she showed the State of Connecticut website for opportunity zones. She asked for feedback on the websites which will be a key marketing tool.

C. Update to EDC
Mr. Hirschorn and Ms. Chukwuogor will provide an update to the full EDC at its meeting tonight.

5. COMMUNICATIONS
There were no communications to review.

6. FUTURE MEETINGS
A. Next meeting date of April 2, 2020 noted.

7. ADJOURNMENT
Ms. Chukwuogor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:46 am. Mr. Hirschorn seconded the motion. The motion was approved.